

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office Action dated November 10, 1997 for which the three-month date for response was February 10, 1997.

A request for a one month extension of time to respond is included herewith along with the required fee. This one month extension will bring the due date to March 10, 1998, which is within the six-month statutory period. Should such request or fee be deficient or absent, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 from Arnold, White & Durkee Deposit Account No. 01-2508/ARSB:509/KIT.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendment and remarks is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 36 and 38.

Please amend the following claims.

1. (Twice Amended) An isolated DNA segment [having] consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or the complement thereof, or a sequence that hybridizes to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 under conditions of high stringency including a temperature of about 50°C to about 70°C and a salt concentration of about 0.02-0.15 molar NaCl [comprising an isolated MTAP gene].

7. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid segment characterized as: